

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 14440 010126Z

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 W

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R 300640Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8689

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FOR NEA/INS - ROBERT OBER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, OTRA, BT (EHARD, WERNER)

SUBJECT: FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE TO WERNER ERHARD FOR TRAVEL
TO BHUTAN

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED COMMERCIAL TELEGRAM ADDRESSED TO AMBASSADOR FROM WERNER ERHARD, WHO STATES THAT HE REPRESENTS EST (ERHARD SEMINAR TRAINING). ERHARD WISHES TO VISIT BHUTAN DURING PERIOD OF OCTOBER 18-22 AND STATES THAT HE HAS ASKED THE DEPARTMENT THROUGH REP. PHILLIP BURTON TO INFORM EMBASSY OF HIS PROPOSED TRAVEL. (FYI: WE CAN FIND NO RECORD OF SUCH A MESSAGE. END FYI) ERHARD'S PURPOSE IN TRAVELLING TO BHUTAN IS TO "MEET IMPORTANT LAMAS AND VISIT MONASTERIES TO GAIN DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF BUDDHISM." FURTHER, HE REQUESTS EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN GAINING ENTRY TO BHUTAN. HE STATES THAT HE HAS ADVISED BHUTAN MISSIONS TO THE U.N. AND IN NEW DELHI OF THIS REQUEST. ERHARD ASKS THAT EMBASSY INFORM HIM WHEN PERMISSION TO ENTER BHUTAN MAY BE RECEIVED. HE IS DEPARTING CALIFORNIA OCTOBER 5 FOR LONDON ON FIRST LEG OF JOURNEY.

2. WE ARE RELUCTANT TO PUSH THE BHUTANESE ON GRANTING AN ENTRY PERMIT TO A PRIVATE AMERICAN CITIZEN. IF THE BHUTANESE WISH MR. ERHARD TO TRAVEL TO BHUTAN, AND CAN PERSUADE GOI OF USEFULNESS OF HIS TRIP, THEY WILL DO SO. OUR INTERVENTION CAN ONLY AROUSE BOTH BHUTANESE AND INDIAN SUSPICIONS.

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PAGE 02 NEW DE 14440 010126Z

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WE SUGGEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT CALL
ERHARD AT EST (765 CALIFORNIA STREET, SAN FRANCISCO,
CALIFORNIA 94108) AND EXPLAIN THAT THE EMBASSY CANNOT
INTERCEDE ON BEHALF OF PRIVATE AMERICAN CITIZENS ON
QUESTIONS REGARDING ENTRY PERMITS INTO BHUTAN.
SHOULD HE COME TO DELHI, WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO POINT
HIM IN THE DIRECTION OF THE BHUTAN MISSION, BUT WOULD
BE RELUCTANT TO DO ANYTHING MORE THAN THAT.
SAXBE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NEWDE14440
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760371-0137
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976093/aaaaabss.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <10 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE TO WERNER ERHARD FOR TRAVEL TO BHUTAN
TAGS: CASC, OTRA, BT, (EHARD, WERNER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006